S/N 10/643,578 PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Nicholas Leventis et al. Examiner: John M. Cooney

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Title: METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR PREPARING SILICA AEROGELS

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

This responds to the Office Action mailed March 29, 2006. Please amend the aboveidentified patent application as follows.